

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 04690 300027Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /080 W

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P R 292346Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7994

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 4690

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PBOR, PINR, GT, BH

SUBJECT: GUATEMALAN CONCERNS ABOUT BELIZE

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA ORANTES CALLED IN CHARGE
AFTERNOON AUGUST 29 TO DISCUSS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN
ABOUT EVOLUTION OF BELIZE ISSUE. MOLINA SHOWED CHARGE
REPORT DATED AUGUST 27 FROM GUATEMALAN CONSUL GENERAL
IN BELIZE REPORTING VISIT OF DEPUTY PREMIER ROGERS
AND OF MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
SHOMAN TO LIMA NONALIGNED CONFERENCE. REPORT STATED
THT SHOMAN ON WAY TO LIMA HAD GONE VIA MEXICO TO CUBA WHERE
HE HAD MET FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL ROA IN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN
CUBAN SUPPORT FOR BELIZEAN CAUSE. FOREIGN MINISTER STATED
THAT GOG HAD ALWAYS BEEN PARTICULARLY CONCERNED
ABOUT SECURITY THREAT TO GUATEMALA OF AN INDEPENDENT
BELIZE UNDER LEFTIST CONTROL. CUBA COULD USE BELIZE
AS "A BEACHHEAD FOR INFILTRATION OF GUATEMALA AND
CENTRAL AMERICA AS A WHOLE". PRESIDENT LAUGERUD HIM-
SELF WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT AND WISHED
US GOVERNMENT TO BE INFORMED ABOUT IT. CHARGE STATED THAT HE HAD
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PAGE 02 GUATEM 04690 300027Z

NOT HAD ANY INFORMATION ABOUT ANY TRIP TO CUBA BY SHOMAN, AND THUS

COULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY REPORT OF HIS MEETING WITH ROA.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUED THAT GOG WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS AT CURRENT LIMA NONALIGNED CONFERENCE AS WELL AS AT FORTHCOMING UNGA. HE STATED THAT GUATEMALA HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN OBSERVER STATUS AT THE LIMA CONFERENCE (THIRD-RANKING FONOFF, LUIS AYCINENA, HAS BEEN IN LIMA FOR ALMOST A WEEK IN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SUCH STATUS). GOG'S INFORMATION IS THAT LIMA NONALIGNED CONFEREES ARE SCHEDULED TO VOTE THIS AFTERNOON ON A RESOLUTION URGING FULL INDEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE. IF SUCH RESOLUTION WERE PASSED AT LIMA, IT WOULD FORESHADOW A SIMILAR RESOLUTION BEING PRESENTED IN UNGA BY NONALIGNED GROUP. PASSAGE OF ANY SUCH RESOLUTION AT UN WOULD PRESENT GUATEMALA WITH "DIFFERENT DECISIONS."

3. CHARGE PROMISED REPORT TO WASHINGTON CONCERNS OF GOG AND PRESIDENT LAUGERUD.

4. COMMENT: FOREIGN MINISTER GAVE SINCERE IMPRESSION OF BELIEVING IN POTENTIAL SECURITY THREAT TO GUATEMALA FROM BELIZE. IN ADDITION TO SEEKING TO OBTAIN US HELP IN INFLUENCING UNGA DEVELOPMENTS, SEEMS POSSIBLE GOG IS SEEKING TO BUILD CASE WITH US GOVERNMENT AS JUSTIFICATION FOR EVENTUAL POSSIBLE MILITARY ACTION OF SOME KIND AGAINST BELIZE IF UNFAVORABLE UNGA RESOLUTION IS PASSED.
ANDREWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GUATEM04690
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750300-0575
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975086/aaaaaes0.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUATEMALAN CONCERNS ABOUT BELIZE
TAGS: PBOR, PINR, GT, BH, LIMA, (MOLINA ORANTES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006